

IN-PERSON SUNDAY

17 de diciembre | december 17, 2023 | 10:30 a.m.

CALVARY DC

Watch live at
facebook.com/calvarydc



graceboone

TERCER DOMINGO DE ADVIENTO | THIRD SUNDAY OF ADVENT

Música | Prelude

Toccata on "O Come, All Ye Faithful"

(Allan Mahnke, b. 1944)

Laura Henderson, organ

La Bienvenida | Welcome

Pastor Maria

*Himno | Opening Hymn

O Come All Ye Faithful | Venid Fieles Todos, #148

La vela de gozo será encendido por los niños de Calvary.

The candle of joy is lit today by Calvary's children.

O come, all ye faithful, joyful and triumphant!

O come ye, O come ye to Bethlehem;

Come and behold him

Born the King of Angels:

O come, let us adore Him,

O come, let us adore Him,

O come, let us adore Him,

Christ the Lord.

Venid fieles todos a Belén marchemos,

De gozo triunfantes y llenos de amor,

Y al Rey de los cielos humilde veremos,

Venid y adoremos,

Venid y adoremos,

Venid y adoremos,

A Cristo el Señor.

Sing, choirs of angels, sing in exultation,

Sing, all ye citizens of Heaven above!

Glory to God, glory in the highest:

O come, let us adore Him,

O come, let us adore Him,

O come, let us adore Him,

Christ the Lord!

*Palabras de Alabanza | Call to Worship

Eugenia Reyes, Deacon

Throughout all of human history, God's promise has stayed the same:

"I will be your God, and you will be my people."

This day we worship our God, whose name "Emmanuel" reminds us of the promise:

God-with-us.

On this third Sunday of Advent, we give thanks for God's abiding presence among us.

Let us worship God.

Written by Beth Merrill Neel on her blog, "Hold Fast to What Is Good." Used with permission.

**Congregation stands. La congregación se pone de pie.*

Para traducción del servicio en español, por favor hablar con un ujier.

*La Paz de Cristo | Passing the Peace

The peace of the Lord be with you. **And also with you.**
La paz del Señor sea contigo. **Y contigo también.**

*Respondemos Juntos | Responding Together

Make Us One | Haznos Uno

**Make us one, Lord, make us one; Holy Spirit, make us one.
Let your love flow so the world will know we are one in you.
Haznos uno, uno en ti. Haznos uno, Señor, en ti.
Y que el mundo vea en nuestro amor que somos uno en ti.**

Tiempo con los Niños | Time with Children

Pastor Maria

Ofrendas | Offertory

FOREST GREEN

(George Lachenauer, b. 1933)
Laura Henderson, organ

Please visit <http://www.calvarydc.org/give>. Each Sunday, we have the opportunity to engage in a spiritual practice tracing back to the early church. As followers of Jesus began re-imagining their allegiance to God and not Caesar, they also chose to share their money, time, and resources in ways that disrupted systems of power and violence around them. As a community of faith shaped by this intention as we strive to be radically inclusive, progressive, and multicultural, we pray that our commitments might free you to give to this place both joyfully and intentionally.



Oraciones del Pueblo | Prayers of the People

Eugenia Reyes, Deacon

Meditación Musical | Scripture Refrain

Gloria, Gloria, #34

**Gloria, Gloria, in excelsis Deo!
Gloria, Gloria, Aleluya, Aleluya!**

Reflecciones Pastorales | Pastoral Reflections

Pastor Sally

Canción | Song

Go Tell it On the Mountain, #167

***Refrain*— Go, tell it on the mountain
Over the hills and everywhere
Go, tell it on the mountain
That Jesus Christ is born.**

**1. While shepherds kept their watching
O'er silent flocks by night
Behold throughout the heavens
There shone a Holy light.**

**2. Down in a lowly manger
Our humble Christ was born
And brought us all salvation
That blessed Christmas morn.**

La Natividad | The Nativity Story
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Prologue

(From Isaiah 40, NRSV)

Reader 1: Comfort, O comfort my people, says your God.

All: Comfort, O comfort ALL my people, says our God.

Reader 2: A voice cries out: "In the wilderness prepare the way of the Lord, make straight in the desert a highway for our God."

All: In EVERY wilderness, make a way.

Reader 1: "Every valley shall be lifted up, and every mountain and hill be made low; the uneven ground shall become level, and the rough places a plain."

All: And everything that is uneven will become level.

Reader 2: "Then the glory of God shall be revealed, and all people shall see it together, for the mouth of God has spoken."

Reader 1: Look, she shall conceive and bear a child, and they shall name him "Emmanuel," which means, "God is with us." (Isaiah 7:14)

All: Emmanuel, God is with us.

Canción | Song

The First Noel | La Primera Navidad, #151

**The First Noel, the Angels did say
Was to certain poor shepherds in fields as they lay
In fields where they lay keeping their sheep
On a cold winter's night that was so deep
Noel, Noel, Noel, Noel,
Born is the King of Israel!**

**La primera Navidad un coro se oyó;
a humildes pastores el cielo cantó,
y un ángel les habló, rodeado de luz,
anunciando la Natividad de Jesús.
Noel, Noel, Noel, Noel,
Hoy ha nacido el Rey de Israel.**

The Birth of Jesus Foretold

(From Luke 1, NRSV)

Reader 1: In the sixth month the angel Gabriel was sent by God to a town in Galilee called Nazareth, to Mary, who was engaged to Joseph, of the house of David. And Gabriel came to Mary and said,

Angel: “Greetings, favored one! The Lord is with you.”

Reader 2: But Mary was much perplexed by the angel’s words and pondered what sort of greeting this might be. The angel said,

Angel: “Do not be afraid, Mary, for you have found favor with God. And now, you will conceive in your womb and bear a son, and you will name him Jesus.”

Reader 1: Mary said to the angel,

Mary: “How can this be?”

Angel: “The Holy Spirit will come upon you. Therefore the child to be born will be holy; he will be called Son of God.”

Mary: “Here am I, the servant of the Lord; let it be with me according to your word.”

Reader 2: This is Mary’s song:

Mary: “My soul magnifies the Lord, and my spirit rejoices in God my Savior, for God has looked with favor on the lowly servant. Surely, from now on all generations will call me blessed; for the Mighty One has done great things for me, and holy is God’s name.

All: Emmanuel, God is with us.

God’s mercy is for those who fear God from generation to generation. God has shown a strong arm; and has scattered the proud in the thoughts of their hearts. God has brought down the powerful from their thrones, and lifted up the lowly; has filled the hungry with good things, and sent the rich away empty.”

All: Emmanuel, God is with us.

Música Especial | Special Music

Jesus, Oh What a Wonderful Child!

arr. Lloyd Larson

*Jesus, Jesus, oh what a wonderful child
Jesus, Jesus, so lowly meek and mild
New life, new hope, new joy he brings
Won't you listen to the angels sing
Glory, glory, glory
To the new born king*

The Birth of Jesus

(From Luke 2, NRSV)

Reader 2: In those days a decree went out from Emperor Augustus that all the world should be registered. This was the first registration and was taken while Quirinius was governor of Syria. All went to their own towns to be registered.

Reader 1 : Joseph also went from the town of Nazareth in Galilee to Judea, to the city of David called Bethlehem, because Joseph was descended from the house and family of David. Joseph went to be registered with Mary, to whom he was engaged and who was expecting a child.

Reader 2: While they were there, the time came for Mary to deliver the child. Mary gave birth to this firstborn son and wrapped him in bands of cloth, and laid him in a manger, because there was no place for them in the inn.

All: Emmanuel, God is with us.

Canción | Song

What Child is This, #162

1. What Child is this, who, laid to rest,
On Mary's lap is sleeping?
Whom angels greet with anthems sweet,
While shepherds watch are keeping?

2. So bring Him incense, gold, and myrrh,
Come, peasant, king to own Him.
The King of kings salvation brings;
Let loving hearts enthrone Him.

This, this is Christ, the King,
Whom shepherds guard and angels sing:
Haste, haste to bring Him laud,
The Babe, the Son of Mary!

The Shepherds and the Angels

(From Luke 2, NRSV)

Reader 1: In that region there were shepherds living in the fields, keeping watch over their flock by night. Then an angel of the Lord stood before them, and the glory of the Lord shone around them, and they were terrified. But the angel said to them,

Angel: “Do not be afraid; for see—I am bringing you good news of great joy for all the people: to you is born this day in the city of David a Savior, who is the Messiah, the Lord. This will be a sign for you: you will find a child wrapped in bands of cloth and lying in a manger.”

Reader 2: And suddenly there was with the angel a multitude of the heavenly host, praising God and saying:

Angel: “Glory to God in the highest heaven, and on earth peace among those whom God favors!”

Reader 2: When the angels had left them and gone into heaven, the shepherds said:

Shepherd: “Let us go now to Bethlehem and see this thing that has taken place, which God has made known to us.”

Reader 1: So they went with haste and found Mary and Joseph, and the child lying in the manger. When they saw this, they made known what had been told them about this child; and all who heard it were amazed at what the shepherds told them.

Reader 2: But Mary treasured all these words and pondered them in her heart.

Reader 1: The shepherds returned, glorifying and praising God for all they had heard and seen, as it had been told them.

Reader 2: All this took place to fulfill what had been spoken by God through the prophet: “Look, the virgin shall conceive and bear a son, and they shall name him ‘Emmanuel’, which means, ‘God is with us.’”

*Please stand as you are able and pass the light to those around you after you receive it.
Por favor, póngase de pie y reciba su luz.*

*Canción | Song

Silent Night | Noche de Paz, #145

Silent night, holy night,
All is calm, all is bright
Round yon virgin, Mother and child
Holy infant, so tender and mild,
Sleep in heavenly peace,
Sleep in heavenly peace.

Noche de paz, noche de amor.
Todo duerme en derredor.
Entre los astros que esparcen su luz,
bella anunciando al niño Jesús,
brilla la estrella de paz,
brilla la estrella de paz.

Epilogue

Angel: Emmanuel, God is with us. God is with ALL of us.

Reader 1: There is no where that God is not. There is no one whom God does not love.

Mary: There are no things that God cannot restore. There is no hurt that God cannot comfort.

Reader 2: We remember God’s promises with joy.

Shepherd: Jesus, the light of the world, has come to us.

All: Emmanuel, God is with us.

You may extinguish your light. Apaga su luz.

*Himno Navideño | Christmas Hymn

Joy to the World | Al Mundo Paz, #143

Joy to the world, the Lord is come!
Let earth receive her King;
let ev’ry heart prepare him room
and heav’n and nature sing,
and heav’n and nature sing,
and heav’n, and heav’n and nature sing.

Al mundo paz, nació Jesús
Nació ya nuestro rey
El corazón ya tiene luz
Y paz su santa grey
Y paz su santa grey
Y paz, y paz su santa grey!

God rules the world with truth and grace
and makes the nations prove
the glories of God's righteousness
and wonders of God's love,
and wonders of God's love,
and wonders, wonders of God's love.

*Bendición | Benediction

Pastor Sally

Música | Postlude

Postlude on Go, Tell It On the Mountain
(Norah Duncan IV, b. 1952)
Laura Henderson, organ

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Afirmando la Llamada de Dios | Affirming God's Call

We give thanks that you have been guided by God to this moment. As a community of faith, we welcome you into the membership of this church. We pledge to love each other and to work together to grow into the fullness of Christ.

Damos gracias que haya sido guiado por Dios a este momento. Como una comunidad de fe, te damos la bienvenida a la membresía de esta iglesia. Nos comprometemos a amarnos unos a otros y a trabajar juntos para crecer en la plenitud de Cristo.

Sign up for our weekly newsletter, **Latest Happenings**.
Visit calvarydc.org and select "Sign up for Updates."

Contact the **Deacon of the Week**, Eugenia Reyes,
eugenia1170@gmail.com with your cares and concerns.



Livestream available on all In-Person Sundays—
facebook.com/CalvaryDC.

Join us from home on Zoom for Holiday Virtual Sundays—
bit.ly/ZoomCalvaryDC or watch the livestream at link above.

UPCOMING VIRTUAL SUNDAYS—December 31 at 10:30 a.m. (New Year's Eve)

ANNOUNCEMENTS

TODAY! Please join us this afternoon from 4:30-8:00 p.m. as we send Eva Powell off to North Carolina with lots of love! We'll be gathering at Becky Vaughn's house—225 Whittier St NW, Washington, DC 20012. Street parking or a short walk from Metro Red Line's Takoma station. If you'd like, bring a snack, dessert or beverage to share. Questions? Contact Becky at 706-540-9724 or Becky@BeckyVaughn.org.

Advent at Calvary— During the month of Advent, we will be worshiping IN-PERSON as we linger with the stories in Luke's gospel about Mary, the mother of Jesus, whose journey from bewilderment to joy continues to be one for the ages. We are especially thrilled to share the artistry and talent of our very own Grace Boone who has lovingly prepared special linocut stamp art for our thematic bulletin covers.

December 3— Join us IN-PERSON at 10:30 a.m. on the first Sunday of Advent as we gather in-person and reflect on Mary's encounter with the angel Gabriel.

December 10— Join us IN-PERSON at 10:30 a.m. on the second Sunday of Advent as we listen to Mary's song of justice as the world is turned around and upside down. Following the service, join us for a **special program** led by Palestinian-American Baptist, GJ Tarazi on ways to advocate for justice and peace in Israel/Palestine. *Please see announcement below for more details.*

December 17— Join us IN-PERSON at 10:30 a.m. on the third Sunday of Advent as we witness the birth of Jesus. Our children will dress up for the **live nativity** as angels and shepherds as we retell the Christmas story in worship; then, we'll stay awhile after the service to celebrate the season with a **special holiday lunch** and an extra dose of merriment! Grace Boone will also have a table set up for anyone who would like to take a little Advent linocut stamp art home with them.

December 24— Join us IN-PERSON at 10:30 a.m. on the fourth Sunday of Advent (and Christmas Eve!) for a special **holiday hymn sing**. We'll gather around the piano and sing our Christmas favorites together. Children and their grown-ups are more than welcome to come in your favorite Christmas pajamas and/or holiday silly sweaters. Join us for a cozy Christmas Eve celebration!

December 31— Join us for VIRTUAL worship at 10:30 a.m. as we gather on Zoom and/or Facebook Live for a time of reflection in the Watchnight tradition.

Estudio Biblico, 9-10:15 a.m. en la biblioteca— Tema: El Mesías en la Biblia, sus significados y demandas ahora. Domingo 17 de diciembre: El Mesías, la paz y la justicia. Domingo 24 de diciembre: ¿El reino del Mesías, una utopía o salvación en la historia?

OUR LABOR TOGETHER | A Mission Statement

We are a multi-racial, multi-ethnic community of Christ followers committed to the sacred work of anti-racism, social justice, and radical inclusion.

OUR BELOVEDNESS | A Values Statement

We affirm that God celebrates the creative diversity of God's kin-dom, loving people of every color, faith, nationality, immigration status, sexual orientation, gender identity and expression, physical and cognitive ability, and economic status. It matters that people who have been historically marginalized by the Christian church in America see themselves listed here as God's beloved. In other words, ***you*** are our values statement.

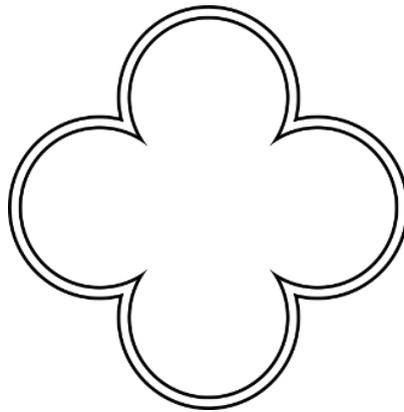
- We believe Black Lives Matter. Further still, Black Lives are precious and beloved by God. We are a church shaped by this profound theological statement. Until this is fully understood and expressed in the policies and practices of this nation's political and social life, it is essential for people of faith to keep saying, and living, this truth.
- We believe no human being is "illegal," and as a Sanctuary Church, we fully welcome and support people of all immigration statuses.
- We believe LGBTQ+ lives are sacred, beautiful, and ought to be fully included and affirmed in all aspects of congregational life and leadership.
- We celebrate that our worshipping life is multi-lingual and multi-dimensional, especially shaped by Latin American, particularly Salvadoran, traditions, and the Historic Black Church tradition.
- We value interfaith inclusion and welcome people of any and all faith traditions to find a home here.
- We value people for who they are and not for their role in an economy where wealth accumulates and people struggle to live.
- We acknowledge that we gather on the traditional land of the Piscataway, Anacostan, and Nacotchtank Peoples past and present, and honor with gratitude the land itself and the people who have stewarded it throughout the generations. We believe that the earth is sacred and that we must continue to learn how to be better caretakers of the land we inhabit.
- We value diverse theological voices which have long stood on the margins within the Christian tradition in America.

OUR HOLY IMAGINATION | A Vision Statement

We believe that Jesus identifies particularly with oppressed and marginalized people and invites us into radically inclusive community. As a historically white church with the sacred gift of now being a multiracial Christian community, we hear the clarion call to engage in the active and disruptive work of anti-racism and decolonization, both within ourselves and in the world. Ultimately, we commit to this labor as a *joyful* act of discipleship that leads us ever deeper into the Gospel of liberation and life.

REMEMBER IN PRAYER

Alice Bartlett; Eleonora Settels; Carrie Dale, mother of Amy Dale; Bradley Sims, friend of Carter Vaughn; Paul Lansing; Joe Taylor, Jessica Taylor's father; Marlene Shambaugh, Courtney Miller's aunt; Luis Campos, Daniel Alcazar-Roman's uncle; Rena Jirack; Ruby Shepherd; Harold Walker, Jackie Wright's stepfather; For peace to prevail in Ukraine, Palestine, Afghanistan, and Yemen; Peace in El Salvador, refugees, asylum seekers, and immigration reform; Victims of gun violence, racial reconciliation and justice everywhere; People targeted with hate crimes; Peace in our world, especially those impacted by war, violence, and government turmoil; Our collective response to resisting white supremacy; Victims of terror everywhere.



CHURCH STAFF

Sally Sarratt (she/her)

Maria Swearingen (she/her)

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